

## ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM MANY STATES

Important News Gathered from Abroad for the Benefit of Our Readers.

Frankfort, Ky., Jan. 17.—At the hearing of the contest of E. S. Howard, Independent, against Denver H. Cornett, Republican, considerable light was shown on the methods of the Republicans in the mountains to secure their overwhelming majorities. The district is composed of Bell, Letcher, Harlan and Leslie counties. Howard alleges that his opponent's election was secured by fraud. The frauds are alleged to have been committed in Harlan county where it is charged voters were imported from Virginia to vote for Cornett and the State ticket. It is also alleged that one man who always took a pride in being the first voter in his precinct found when he was handed his ballot that it was number 106. Another charge made is that in one precinct thirty members of the Hensley family cast their ballots, but the stub book disclosed that in addition to these thirty-three more Hensleys had been "dug up" and voted.

Madisonville, Ky., Jan. 17.—A minister of this city has just returned home from Madison county, where he has been engaged in a revival, and he has brought home with him a specimen of white coal. It was obtained from a man who lives near Wrightsburg, and who is to open a slope mine soon. The coal will be mined for domestic use. The sample is of a white color and very light, leaves neither soot nor clinders after burning and makes red ashes, resembling those made by wood fire.

A bill amending the school-book act will be introduced in both houses at Frankfort. The changes provide that books of any quality may be used, but that the price shall not be higher than the price charged in any other State in the Union. Another amendment permits cities of the first, second and third classes to choose their own text books.

Lexington, Ky., Jan. 19.—At the meeting held here this afternoon by Fayette County Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy in remembrance of the birthday of Gen. Robert E. Lee, Maj. O. S. Tenney offered a resolution protesting against the action of the United States Government in ordering the motto, "In God We Trust," removed from coins and requesting the Hon. Preston Kimball, the Congressman from this district, to do all he could to have the motto restored. The resolution was unanimously adopted and a further resolution adopted asking other Chapters of the U. D. C. to make similar requests of the Congressman in their districts.

Owensville, Ky., Jan. 19.—United States Marshal Sam Jackson, of place, aided by Deputies Geo. W. O. Cash and H. C. Heron, just returned from a hunt for the hills of Powell and Meigs counties. They found two which they destroyed, with many large bats. The operators of the stills escaped. One of the stills had been running for 15 years and piped its water from Red river, a quarter of a mile underground.

Frankfort, Ky., Jan. 20.—The L. & E. passenger train from Louisville due here at 9:50 this morning was wrecked between Bagdad and Halton, about seven miles from this place. The engine and tender left the track and the two coaches, mail and baggage car followed.

Several of the passengers were severely bruised, but none seriously injured. Many members of the Legislature who spent Sunday at home were on board the train.

The Chesapeake and Ohio train from Louisville, containing many legislators, was delayed by the wreck.

A spreading rail is assigned as the cause of the train leaving the track.

Some of the Republican members of the Legislature are showing a rebellious spirit toward the close espionage to which they are subjected, and have begun to "talk out in meeting." This is especially true of some of the younger bunch, who expect to have a good time while in Frankfort and resent the demands of the party "whips" to be kept constantly advised of their movements. An open rupture is predicted should the senatorial ballot be prolonged for many more days. A well-known young Republican talked completely the other day when asked to sign a certain paper by one of the Republican "big wigs." All the "pairs made by the Republican members with Democrats must be scrutinized and pass muster by the leaders before the endorsement is given and the "pair" authorized.

One of the managers for Gov. Beck-

ham who is always in evidence is Gen. Percy Haley. This young politician who has gained a name for political shrewdness that is not confined to Kentucky, is a tower of strength to the Beckham organization. He knows every angle of the political game, and should the former Governor achieve his vaulting ambition of a seat in the United States Senate, he will owe more to this active young lieutenant and manager than anyone else.

In the midst of the Appalachian coal field in Western Virginia, in that part of the drainage basin of Russell fork of Big Sandy river which lies in that State there is an area of 550 square miles in which the coal has not been extensively prospected and concerning which no reports have heretofore been published.

In the fall of 1906, however, a reconnaissance survey of this field was made by Mr. Ralph W. Stone, geologist of the United States Geological Survey, and Mr. Stone's report on his work has just been published by the survey in Bulletin No. 316, which forms Part II of "Contributions Economic Geology, 1906."

The field described by Mr. Stone includes all of Dickenson county, and the northern part of Wise county. It is a heavily-wooded, thinly-populated, mountainous district, for the most part made up of steep-sided, narrow-topped ridges for there is no level land of any extent in this section of Virginia. Sandy ridge which has a general elevation of 3000 feet, forms the southern boundary of the field, and Pine mountain, of equal elevation, on the dividing line between Virginia and Kentucky, forms the northern and western boundaries. The general elevation of the main stream in this region is 1800 feet and the lowest point, where Russell fork passes through the Breaks at the north end of Pine mountain, is approximately 900 feet above tide. There is no ready access to this country except on horseback or by wagon road through some gap in the surrounding mountains. The railroads nearest the area are the Clinch Valley division of the Norfolk & Western Railway on the south and the Big Sandy branch of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway at Elkhorn City, Ky., on the north.

The undeveloped condition of the coal resources of this region makes it impossible to name and describe the extent of the various coal beds occurring in the field. Many of the coal outcrops are several miles apart, and in a wooded condition of the country exact correlations cannot be carried over such distances; but Mr. Stone has given an outline of geologic conditions and has described the exposures seen at the prospect trenches and banks and in the natural outcrops. The evidence collected presented shows conclusively that an area between Sandy Ridge and Round river is a valuable field of bituminous coal, in all part of which there is at least one coal bed of mineable dimensions. Doubtless further prospecting will reveal two or more coal beds of workable thickness in many parts of the field. Chemical analyses show that the coals are of high grade, and there is evidence that some, if not all of them will coke.

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## Jesus Cleanses the Temple

Sunday School Lesson for Jan. 26, 1908  
Specially Prepared for This Paper

LESSON TEXT.—John 2:13-22. Memory verses 15, 16.  
GOLDEN TEXT.—"Holiness becometh thine house, O Lord, forever."—Psalm 85:5.

TIME.—The spring of A. D. 27. Passover was April 11-17.

PLACE.—In the temple at Jerusalem. PLACE IN THE HISTORY.—Early in the first year of Jesus' ministry. The second of his first two "signs," illustrating his work as Redeemer.

### Comment and Suggestive Thought.

The first sign which Jesus gave was the revelation of his glory at Cana of Galilee related in the first part of the chapter in which our lesson is found. At the close of our last lesson we left Jesus and his five or six disciples on the way from Bethabara to Galilee. The disciples had as yet but slight acquaintance with Jesus, his character, his powers and his mission. They believed in him, but they needed a deeper foundation for their faith and a fuller knowledge of his work.

Everything about this miracle must have been a strange and wondrous revelation of Jesus to them, as a light from within, or as the sunlight shining through dull stained-glass windows reveals the true nature of the picture wrought in them, and they are ablaze with royal colors such as are the exquisite lamp shades of Favrre glass, that require the electric bulb within to bring out their lovely hues. Jesus was a prince in disguise, and he threw off his outward guise and appeared in his own royal glory.

What Did This Miracle Reveal to the Disciples Concerning the True Nature of Jesus?—(1) It revealed the miraculous powers residing in him which would enable him to do the work the Messiah was to do.

(2) It made known to them that he was sent from God as his son with divine credentials worthy of his origin and his mission.

The Second "Sign." The Cleansing of the Temple.—Not long after the "sign" at the wedding, a strange, almost discordant, note was heard in that anthem of love and joy and hope. That experience did not express the whole of life, nor the whole of the mission of Jesus. The new "sign" was as illuminating and marvelous and unexpected as was the first. It was the act of a hero, a patriot, a reformer, and a king.

(13) "And the Jews' passover," the great annual religious feast of the Jews to which all good Jews were expected to come. Sometimes, according to Josephus, as many as 2,000,000 visitors were present. "Jesus went up" from Capernaum (v. 12) "to Jerusalem." Jesus was particular to attend these great feasts, for however much they were often perverted and misused by some, they were divinely appointed services.

Jesus' Heroic Act of Patriotic Reform.—When Jesus entered the temple, and saw this desecration of his Father's house—which he had seen many a time during his youth—his soul flamed with indignation. What he saw was contrary to all law, Jewish, Roman and Divine, and what he did was patriotic toward all three kingdoms under which he lived.

(15) He alone, unaided, unknown, "made a scourge of small cords," ropes made of rushes like a Roman flagellum or scourge with several lashes, and "drove them all out of the temple," the court, "the sheep and the oxen," and those who trafficked in them. He did not strike the men, most probably not even the animals, and such a scourge would not hurt them. The owners would naturally follow their cattle without the gates. "Poured out the changers' money." Upon the marble pavement, thus stopping their traffic.

(16) "And said unto them that sold doves," The doves, being in cages, could not be driven out.

"Take these things hence."

The boldness of the act may well have given a hush to the noisy crowd, and the voice of Jesus rang out: "Make not my Father's house a house of merchandise."

How Was It Possible for Jesus to Succeed in This?—Why did this great burly crowd of drovers, and soldiers, and elders in authority yield to the single voice of an unknown young man?

Because they knew that they were in the wrong. "Conscience makes cowards of us all." Because they knew that God was on his side, and "one with God is a majority."

Because Jesus embodied in himself, as a prophet, the moral sentiment of the nation. "All the true friends of law, who must have been long grieved by this disorder, would defend the righteousness of his action, thus rendering resistance impossible."

What This "Sign" Revealed as to the Nature of Jesus and His Kingdom.—Let no mistake be made concerning what is meant by a Christian spirit. Let us not, as is too often done, take one side of the character of Christ in forming an estimate of the whole.

Note how Jesus acted for the reform of the world. He did not spend his time in denunciations of the Roman or Jewish authorities before his disciples. He sometimes uttered "Woe," but it was to the face of evil doers. When he would reform a wrong, he reformed it. When he saw sickness, he cured it.

We are to be reformers. We are to be courageous and heroic in reform, in cleansing the world from sin.

But our first work is where we are, in our hearts, in our principles, in the things which we can touch, for which we can vote or not or speak.

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